

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Objection to Claims

This objection has been addressed by deleting “and” from line 12 of original claim 1.

2. Rejection of Claims 1-13 Under 35 USC §112, 2nd Paragraph

This rejection has been addressed by amending claim 1 to clarify that the estimated samples “correspond” to respective chromosomes, and are not samples “of the” chromosomes.

In particular, as recited in part (B1) of claim 1, each sample includes an encoding table having a plurality of transportation duties, which in turn correspond to chromosomes and genes in a genetic algorithm. Therefore, each sample “corresponds” to a respective chromosome, as is now recited in claim 1.

Having thus overcome each of the sole rejection made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejection and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested. Should the Examiner nevertheless feel that further clarification of the language of any claim is required, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time to discuss any necessary changes to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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